

Preface

The National Intelligence Council (NIC) is undertaking a systematic research and development program on broad, crosscutting issues for the next millennium; this constitutes the DCI's Strategic Estimates Program. One of these strategic estimates focuses on developing a better understanding of the future course of the information revolution throughout the world over the next 10-20 years.

The NIC has asked RAND to take the lead in this effort to chart the future course of the information revolution. As the first major step in a multi-year program of research, RAND convened a major international conference in Washington DC in November 1999, focusing on the political/governmental, business/financial, and social/cultural dimensions of the information revolution, as they are unfolding in different areas of the world.

This report presents the proceedings of that conference.

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